GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5758
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2003
SHORTAGE OF CONTAINERS
TUFANI SAROJ

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortage of containers in the country has adversely affected exports;

(b) if not, the number of available containers with various Port Trusts of the country including the Chennai Port Trust, separately;

(c) whether a large number of containers have been stranded at the foreign Container Freight Stations (CFS) due to non-payment of customs duty by the foreign importers; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to meet the shortage of containers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) & (b) No representation regarding shortage of containers for exports has been received. The Government has been making sustained efforts to improve containerisation of export cargo and the share of such cargo in total exports has gone up from 11.46 % in 2000-01 to 12.94 % in 2001-02. Department of Commerce interacts on a regular basis with Ministries of Shipping, Railways, Finance, and Container Corporation of India as well as with the freight forwarders, shippers and shipping lines to facilitate containerisation of exports and imports.

(c) No such representation has been received.

(d) The Question does not arise.